

IDB's Machine-Learning Forecast of Commune-Level Poverty and Inequality in Haiti

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Haiti

Quality score: 47/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

IDB researchers used machine learning on satellite imagery and anonymised mobile-phone records to estimate and forecast poverty and inequality across Haiti's 140 communes without new household surveys, finding 1 in 4 poor Haitians concentrated in just 10 communes.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	1/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	0/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[Inter-American Development Bank \(IDB\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

DOI: [10.18235/0002466](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

[World Bank: Poverty Mapping in the Age of Machine Learning](#) — accessed 2026-09-08

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